Use of Stormwater for Fire Protection

Staff from King County Department of Natural Resources and DDES have considered the use of stormwater for fire protection in privately owned and maintained stormwater management systems. If a project proponent elects to provide storage in a stormwater system beyond the code requirement, DDES and the Water and Land Resources Division have no objection, nor are there any rules, codes or policies in place that would preclude building stormwater facilities with increased storage.

The DDES Fire Marshall has no objection to a properly engineered fire protection system that uses stormwater provided that:

- all fire code provisions are met,
- the required volume of water is continuously available and
- the design of the pump and storage system prevents transmission of any sediment that would cause damage to the pump and sprinkler system.